

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Patent of:

MILLER

Patent No.: 7,463,745

Issued: December 9, 2008

Confirmation No.: 1346

Atty. File No.: 45568-00400

For: "PHASE BASED FEEDBACK
OSCILLATION PREVENTION IN
HEARING AIDS"

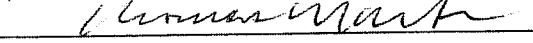
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a request for a Certificate of Correction for PTO mistake under 37 C.F.R. 1.322(a). The errors in the patent are obvious typographical errors or omissions and the correct wording can be found in the Office Action having a mailing date of September 27, 2007. Attached is form PTO 1050 along with copies of documentation that unequivocally supports patentee's assertion(s).

Respectfully submitted,

MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP

By 
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Date: 11/8/09



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,446	04/09/2004	Scott Allan Miller III	45568-00400	1346

7590 09/25/2007
Travis C. Stephenson, Esq.
MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP
Suite 411
3151 South Vaughn Way
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RECEIVED

SEP 28 2007

MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP

EXAMINER

NI, SUHAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/25/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/821,446		MILLER, SCOTT ALLAN	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Suhan Ni		2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-8, 15-19 and 27-32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/23/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group **Art Unit 2615**.

2. This communication is responsive to the claims filed 04/09/2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) The invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-2, 9, 12-14, 20, 23-26 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fretz (U. S. Pat. App. – 2005/0047620).

Regarding claims 1-2, 14 and 25, Fretz discloses a hearing aid comprising: a microphone (206) to receive audio inputs and provide a response signal (208); a signal processor to process the response signal (236) to generate a transducer drive signal (210), wherein a portion of one of the response signal and the transducer drive signal is received over a feedback path (202) as a feedback signal; a transducer (210) to utilize the transducer drive signal to stimulate a component of the auditory system; phase shifter logic (248) to shift the phase of the feedback signal in a predetermined amount(240), without modification of signal gain characteristics, to achieve a non-zero net phase of the feedback signal over the feedback path as claimed.

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claims 9, 20, 26, Fretz further discloses the hearing aid, comprising: adaptive circuitry (244) to determine the phase of the feedback signal over the feedback path.

Regarding claims 12-13, 23-24 and 33, Fretz further discloses the hearing aid, wherein the phase shifter logic (248) is configured to shift the phase based on the patient's ability to detect audio queues generated by the phase shift to minimize the patient's detection of the phase shift (Fig. 2) as claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10-11, 21-22 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fretz (U. S. Pat. App. – 2005/0047620).

Regarding claims 10-11, 21-22 and 34-35, Fretz may not specially teach the phase shifting range as claimed. Since Fretz does not specially restrict the phase shifting range and providing a suitable range for the hearing aid to reduce noises is very well known in the art, it therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to be motivated to provide a phase shifter with desirable shifting range, such as 200 degree for the hearing aid as an alternate choice, in order to provide a hearing aid with desirable noise cancellation capability for specific individual and/or under specific circumstances.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-8, 15-19 and 27-32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

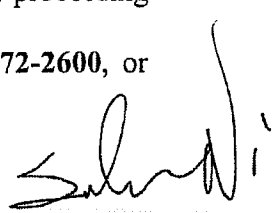
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


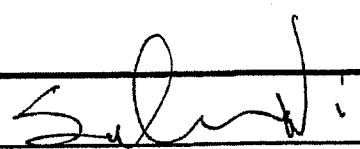
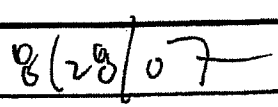
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Suhan Ni** whose telephone number is (571)-272-7505, and the number for fax machine is (571)-273-7505. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, and may be reached on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. If it is necessary, the examiner's supervisor, **Sinh N. Tran**, can be reached at (571)-272-7564.

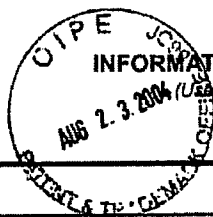
8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (**PAIR**) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

9. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (571)-272-2600, or please see <http://www.uspto.gov/web/info/2600>.

8/28/2007


SUHAN NI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. 45568-00400		SERIAL NO. 10/821,446	
				FILING April 9, 2004		GROUP UNKNOWN	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	12.	DOCUMENT NUMBER 6,108,431	DATE 08/22/00	NAME BACHLER	CLASS 381	SUBCLASS 312	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	13.	6,128,392	10/03/00	LEYSIEFFER et al.	381	318	
	14.	6,134,329	10/17/00	GAO et al.	381	60	
	15.	6,151,400	11/21/00	SELIGMAN	381	317	
	16.	6,163,287	12/19/00	HUANG	341	143	
	17.	6,173,063	01/09/01	MELANSON	381	318	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				
							
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO.
45568-00400SERIAL NO.
10/821,446FILING
April 9, 2004

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
SV	1.	5,402,496	03/28/95	SOLI	381	94.2	
	2.	5,475,759	12/12/95	ENGELBRETON	381	318	
	3.	5,500,902	03/19/96	STOCKHAM JR. et al.	381	320	
	4.	5,680,467	10/21/97	HANSEN	381	314	
	5.	5,848,171	12/08/98	STOCKHAM JR. et al.	381	321	
	6.	5,912,977	06/15/99	GOTTSCHALK-SCHOENIG	381	321	
	7.	6,044,162	03/28/00	MEAD et al.	381	312	
	8.	6,072,884	06/06/00	KATES	381	318	
	9.	6,072,885	06/06/00	STOCKHAM JR. et al.	381	321	
	10.	6,097,823	08/01/00	KUO	381	312	
SV	11.	6,104,822	08/15/00	MELANSON et al.	381	320	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

8/20/07

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/821,446	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination MILLER, SCOTT ALLAN	
	Examiner Suhan Ni	Art Unit 2615	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-2005/0047620 A1	03-2005	Fretz, Robert J.	381/318
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.